

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9022

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 06496

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING NO. 211, APRIL 28, 1978
(SALT TWO- 1714)

REF: (A) SALT TWO 1708; (B) SALT TWO 1709; (C) SALT TWO
1711; (D) STATE 102266; (E) SALT TWO 1710

SUMMARY: US REPLIED TO EARLIER SOVIET QUESTIONS ABOUT ITS
HEAVY BOMBER PROPOSALS AND RECEIVED SERIES OF SUPPLEMEN-
TARY QUESTIONS IN RETURN. US ALSO TABLED ITS PROPOSAL FOR
ARTICLE II OF PROTOCOL REGARDING NEW TYPES OF ICBMS AND
KARPOV RESPONDED WITH EXPANDED VERSION OF PRELIMINARY QUES-
TIONS HE POSED DURING APRIL 26 PLENARY. END SUMMARY.

1. SIDES PURSUED DISCUSSION OF THEIR DIFFERENT PROPOSALS
FOR HEAVY BOMBER DEFINITION IN ART. II.3, ITS ASSOCIATED
AGREED STATEMENTS AND COMMON UNDERSTANDING. PEREZ RE-
SPONDED TO EARLIER SOVIET QUESTIONS RE US PROPOSAL, NOTING
THREE ISSUES WHICH SEEMED TO HAMPER AGREEMENT ON II.3,
NAMELY, EXCEPTION FROM TYPE RULE FOR B-52 CRUISE MISSILE
CARRIERS (CMC), CONVERSION OF AIRPLANES WHICH ARE NOT
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HEAVY BOMBERS TO CMCS, AND COOPERATIVE MEASURES SUPPLE-
MENTING NTM.

2. RE B-52S, BOTH THEY AND BEAR ASW AIRPLANES WERE NOT
DESIGNED WITH FRODS CONCEPT IN VIEW AND, UNDER US PROPOSAL,
B-52 CMCS AND BEAR ASW WOULD BE CONSIDERED TO BE DIFFERENT
TYPES FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE HEAVY BOMBER MODELS. B-52S

EQUIPPED FOR LONG RANGE CRUISE MISSILES WILL BE DISTINGUISHABLE EXTERNALLY FROM OTHER B-52S BY NTM AND ALL B-52S WILL BE COUNTED AS HEAVY BOMBERS REGARDLESS OF CONFIGURATION. ONLY THOSE EQUIPPED FOR LONG RANGE CRUISE MISSILES WILL BE INCLUDED IN 1320 AGGREGATE. PER REFTEL D, PEREZ INDICATED THAT LONG RANGE CRUISE MISSILES CURRENTLY PLANNED FOR DEPLOYMENT ON B-52S WILL NOT FIT ON EXISTING SRAM ROTARY LAUNCHERS AND THAT THIS WAS CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PLANS.

3. US BELIEVES ITS PROPOSAL ON CONVERSION IS LOGICAL AND CONSISTENT, AND THAT IT ACCOMMODATES SOVIET CONCERNS RELATING TO VERIFICATION. US ENVISAGES CONVERSION AS TAKING AIRPLANES, NOT OTHERWISE HEAVY BOMBERS, AND EQUIPPING THEM FOR CRUISE MISSILES, WHILE AT SAME TIME PROVIDING FRODS WHICH INDICATE THAT THEY ARE SO EQUIPPED AND THAT OTHER AIRPLANES OF SAME BASIC AIRFRAME CANNOT BE USED FOR LAUNCHING CRUISE MISSILES. THIS WOULD BE CONFIRMED VIA UPDATING OF DATA BASE.

4. PEREZ EMPHASIZED THAT CONCEPT OF COOPERATIVE MEASURES WAS NOT NEW TO EITHER SIDE, CITING ARTICLE XVII.2.(A) AND (B) AS EXAMPLE. COOPERATIVE MEASURES APPLY TO NEW TYPES OF AIRPLANES WHICH WILL BE DEVELOPED, TESTED AND DEPLOYED IN FUTURE. THIS CONCEPT IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH AGREED PROVISIONS OF JDT AND DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY CHANGES TO THEM. SUCH MEASURES ARE VOLUNTARY AND A SIDE HAS AT LEAST THREE
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OPTIONS IF OTHER SIDE FINDS PROBLEMS IN OBSERVING DIFFERENCES OR IDENTIFYING THEM AS FUNCTIONALLY-RELATED. A) IT CAN ALTER THE OBSERVABLE FEATURES TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE IDENTIFIABLE AS FRODS; B) IT CAN OFFER OR UNDERTAKE COOPERATIVE MEASURES TO RESOLVE PROBLEM, OR C) IT CAN COUNT ALL AIRPLANES OF TYPE IN QUESTION. COOPERATIVE MEASURES MAY BE PROPOSED BY EITHER SIDE AND COULD BE MUTUALLY AGREED OR UNDERTAKEN UNILATERALLY.

5. KARPOV, IN RESPONSE, RETRACED MUCH OF GROUND COVERED IN PART III OF HIS PLENARY STATEMENT OF APRIL 26, (REFTEL C), BUT ADDED ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS. RE COOPERATIVE MEASURES, HE NOTED THREE OPTIONS PRESENTED BY US IN PARA 4 ABOVE, AND ASKED WHO WOULD DECIDE WHETHER SUCH MEASURES WERE NECESSARY. WOULD THIS BE DONE UNILATERALLY, BILATERALLY OR PERHAPS (SARCASTICALLY) BY EXPERTS FROM THE UN? SECONDLY, HE WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER THERE WAS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IDEA OF COOPERATIVE MEASURES AND BUILDING AIRPLANES FROM SCRATCH AS CMCS. HE ALSO ASKED FOR MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION ON DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN THOSE B-52SWIH SRAMS AND THOSE WITH CRUISE MISSILES. HE AND BEKETOV CONFIRMED THAT BEAR ASW WAS DIFFERENT FROM

BEAR HEAVY BOMBER. ASW MODEL WAS TU-142 AND BOMBER WAS TU-95 AND US USE OF PROPER TERMS WOULD BE APPRECIATED'

6. KARPOV REFERRED BACK TO THREE ISSUES PEREZ MENTIONED IN PARA 1 ABOVE AND ASKED WHAT RELATIONSHIP THERE WAS BETWEEN THEM AND QUESTION OF BUILDING AIRPLANE FROM SCRATCH FOR CRUISE MISSILES. HE NOTED THAT B-52 MIGHT CARRY ABOUT 20 CRUISE MISSILES WHILE ANOTHER AIRPLANE MIGHT HOLD 100 OF THEM. SHOULD SUCH AIRPLANES BE COUNTED AS MORE THAN ONE

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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 06496

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UNIT? BEKETOV ASKED IN CONCLUSION HOW US PERCEIVED CONVERSION OF NON-HEAVY BOMBER AIRPLANES TO CMCS' IS IT US INTENTION TO TAKE A NEW 747 AND CONVERT IT FOR CRUISE MISSILES OR DOES CONVERSION BEGIN ALREADY IN THE FACTORY WHEN AIRPLANE IS BUILT?

7. PEREZ RESPONDED THAT ONE COULD DEAL WITH A NUMBER OF THE SOVIET QUESTIONS IMMEDIATELY BUT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO DEAL WITH THEM AS A WHOLE. US WOULD STUDY THEM CAREFULLY AND RESPOND AT AN EARLY MEETING.

8. PEREZ THEN TABLED NEW US PROPOSALS ON NEW TYPES OF ICBMS FOR ARTICLE II OF PROTOCOL, AS PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED IN APRIL 26 PLENARY (REFTEL E). KARPOV REITERATED QUESTIONS HE HAD POSED EXTEMPORANEOUSLY AT PLENARY (REFTEL B), WITH MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES. HE INDICATED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DATE OF APRIL 15, 1978 AND DISTINGUISHING FEATURES, HOW US PROPOSAL DIFFERED IN SUBSTANCE FROM SOVIET PROPOSAL, WHAT APRIL 1978 DATE MEANT

WITH REGARD TO CARRYING OUT CURRENT PROGRAMS, AND HOW TO
UNDERSTAND PROPOSAL REGARDING LIMITING MINIMAL WEIGHT OF
RVS. PEREZ INDICATED US WOULD RESPOND FULLY AT NEXT
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MEETING. DATE OF NEXT SESSION UNCERTAIN BECAUSE OF TWO-
DAY SOVIET HOLIDAY IN OBSERVANCE OF MAY DAY. EARLE

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Message Attributes

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